



# VEGE *notes*

Your levy @ work

## Australian Vegetable Industry Development Network

The Australian Vegetable Industry Development Network was established to assist the Australian vegetable industry in maximising the benefits of its investment in research and development (R&D).

This is achieved by enhancing communication and information flow between growers, researchers and other members of the vegetable industry.

The network began in 1998 and now comprises six Industry Development Officers (IDOs), with one officer in each state.

The National Vegetable Research & Development Levy is matched dollar for dollar by the Commonwealth Government (through Horticulture Australia Limited) and together they fund the network and the R&D program.

The IDOs' primary goal is to help bridge the gap between researchers and growers, and ensure maximum benefit is gained from the growers' levies and Government contributions that fund R&D programs. They do this by working closely with growers to determine the industry's R&D priorities, and then they pass this information on to researchers to ensure their future R&D work meets these priorities.

The IDOs also play a major role in coordinating the extension of information out from R&D programs, so that growers receive the information they need in a timely and useful manner.

In addition to regularly communicating with members of the vegetable industry, the IDOs also maintain frequent contact with the 50+ IDOs in other horticultural industries throughout Australia.

This allows them to tap into the latest knowledge, ideas and technologies from all facets of the broader Australian horticulture industry, and then make this information available within the vegetable industry.

The key objectives of the network are:

- *Facilitate transfer and adoption of new technologies and practices that increase sustainability and profitability*
- *Increase grower awareness of and access to information sources and services*
- *Identify impediments to the progress of the industry and suggest potential solutions*
- *Assist industry in identifying and accessing opportunities locally, nationally and internationally*
- *To assist implementation of the Australian Vegetable Industry Strategic Development Plan and develop further strategies for the industry*
- *Encourage and facilitate communication throughout the vegetable industry, with particular emphasis on improving linkages between researchers and growers.*

### The Bottom line

- **Maximising the industry's investment in R&D programs through increased coordination and communication of R&D outcomes**
- **Stronger linkages forged between all members of the Australian vegetable industry**
- **More efficient transfer of technology and information, resulting in increased uptake and application of new technologies and practices**

The IDOs undertake a diverse array of activities to help them achieve these objectives, however as the Australian vegetable industry varies significantly from state to state, each of the IDOs tailor their activities to the individual needs of their state. These activities include:

- Production and distribution of information through a variety of media, such as newsletters, magazine articles, targeted mail outs, web pages, email broadcasts, fax streams and numerous industry publications
- Assisting the national R&D approval process, including facilitating commodity and key investment area groups
- Assisting in the determination of state and national R&D priorities, and communicating these throughout the industry
- Organising, facilitating and assisting with workshops, field days, conferences, seminars and other industry events which contribute to the effective transfer of R&D outcomes
- Acting as a central point in their own state for coordinating and distributing information from interstate and overseas R&D programs

## The Australian Vegetable Industry Development Officers

*Anyone requiring information about any facet of research and development in the Australian vegetable industry is encouraged to contact their local IDO.*

### New South Wales

#### **Alison Anderson**

P: 02 9746 1865

F: 02 9746 1865

M: 0409 383 003

E: [alison.anderson@bigpond.com](mailto:alison.anderson@bigpond.com)

Website: [www.nswfarmers.org.au](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au)



### Tasmania

#### **Stephen Welsh**

P: 03 6332 1800

F: 03 6331 4344

M: 0400 006 095

E: [tfgaswelsh@bigpond.com](mailto:tfgaswelsh@bigpond.com)

Website: [www.tfga.com.au](http://www.tfga.com.au)



### Queensland

#### **Mathew Dent**

P: 07 3213 2425

F: 07 3278 6173

M: 0408 135 042

E: [mdent@qfvg.org.au](mailto:mdent@qfvg.org.au)

Website: [www.qfvg.org.au](http://www.qfvg.org.au)



### Victoria

#### **Patrick Ulloa**

P: 03 9800 4631

F: 03 9800 4632

M: 0429 990 553

E: [pulloa@vgavic.org.au](mailto:pulloa@vgavic.org.au)

Website: [www.vgavic.org.au](http://www.vgavic.org.au)



### South Australia

#### **Craig Feutrill**

P: 08 8303 7247

F: 08 8303 6752

M: 0418 831 089

E: [cfeutrill@adam.com.au](mailto:cfeutrill@adam.com.au)

Website: [www.arris.com.au](http://www.arris.com.au)



### Western Australia

#### **David Ellement**

P: 08 9226 0244

F: 08 9226 0344

M: 0408 941 318

E: [ellement@iinet.net.au](mailto:ellement@iinet.net.au)



ISSN: 1449 - 1397

Copyright©: Horticulture Australia 2003

No part of this publication can be copied or reproduced without the permission of the original authors.

VEGEnotes is coordinated, edited & printed by:

ARRIS Pty Ltd, t 08 8303 7247 f 08 8303 6752

Level 1, 50 Carrington Street

Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

Telephone 61 2 8295 2300

Facsimile 61 2 8295 2399

[www.horticulture.com.au](http://www.horticulture.com.au)



**Horticulture Australia**

**Your levy @ work**